

Appl. No. 10/056,300
Reply to Office Action of August 9th, 2005

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-18 as follows:

- 1) (Currently Amended) A computer-based method for extracting specific content from a document comprising content, comprising the steps of:

creating at least one set of selection envelopes, wherein each selection envelope is associated with at least one selection command based upon a plurality of selection commands for locating said specific a particular portion of said content within said document, wherein each selection command is a function configured to locate the particular portion of said content to be enclosed by a corresponding selection envelope, wherein each successive selection command narrows said content to be enclosed by the selection envelope corresponding to the selection command; and

applying each selection command and its corresponding selection envelope to said content until selecting said specific content from said document is enclosed in a particular one of the selection envelopes based upon said at least one selection envelope.

- 2) (Previously Amended) The computer-based method of claim 1 wherein said selection envelope comprises:

a begin marker and an end marker, which respectively define the beginning and end of said selection envelope.

- 3) (Previously Amended) The computer-based method of claim 1 wherein said at least one selection envelope comprises:

a parent envelope and a child envelope.

- 4) (Previously Amended) The computer-based method of claim 3 wherein said child envelope is nested within said parent envelope.

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5) (Previously Amended) The computer-based method of claim 3 wherein said child envelope partially overlaps said parent envelope.

6) (Previously Amended) The computer-based method of claim 3 wherein said child envelope is completely outside of said parent envelope.

7) (Previously Amended) The computer-based method of claim 1 wherein at least one of said plurality of selection commands comprises:
a command based on document structure.

8) (Previously Amended) The computer-based method of claim 1 wherein at least one of said plurality of selection commands comprises:
a command based on a character pattern.

9) (Previously Amended) The computer-based method of claim 1 wherein at least one of said plurality of selection commands comprises:
a combined command based on both document structure and a character pattern.

10) (Currently Amended) A computer-based method for extracting desired content from a content source, comprising the steps of:

parameterizing a plurality of selection commands at least one selection command to operate on said source, wherein each selection command is a function configured to locate the particular portion of said content source to be enclosed by a corresponding selection envelope, wherein each successive selection command narrows the particular portion of said content source to be enclosed by the selection envelope corresponding to the selection command;

defining a selection envelope to select parent selection envelope corresponding to a first selection command for locating a first content within said content source said desired content from said source by use of said at least one selection command;

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using the first selection command associated with the parent selection envelope to select the first selecting content from said content source by use of said selection envelope;
determining whether said selected first content is said desired content; and
extracting said ~~selected~~ first content if said ~~selected~~ first content is said desired content;
defining a child selection envelope corresponding to a second selection command for locating second content within said content source if said first content is not said desired content;

using the second selection command associated with said child selection envelope to select the second content from said content source;

determining whether the second content is said desired content; and
extracting the second content if the second content is said desired content.

11) (Cancelled)

12) (Cancelled)

13) (Previously Amended) The computer-based method of claim 10 wherein said source comprises:
a document.

14) (Previously Amended) The computer-based method of claim 10 wherein said source comprises:
a section of a document.

15) (Previously Amended) The computer-based method of claim 10 wherein said step of parameterizing said at least one selection command comprises:
determining whether said source is structured or unstructured, and
selecting said at least one selection command based upon this determination.

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16) (Previously Amended) The computer-based method of claim 15 wherein said at least one selection command comprises:

a structure based command selected from the group including:

select by name commands, select by location commands, select by sibling relationship commands, select by attribute commands and select by counter commands.

17) (Previously Amended) The computer-based method of claim 15 wherein said at least one selection command comprises:

a character based command selected from the group including:

select text contain commands and select text matching pattern commands.

18) (Previously Amended) The computer-based method of claim 15 wherein said at least one selection command comprises:

a combined structure and character based command.